

HISTORICAL ROOTS OF PALESTINE PROBLEM

Maulana Syed Abul A'la Maududi

Translated by
Wajid Naeemuddin

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Foreword

Yasser Arafat, the head of the "Provisional Administration" of Palestine had declared in 2000 that even if no agreement were reached with Israel, he would declare an independent "State of Palestine" on 15 September 2000. As had been expected, he had 'postponed' the said declaration. Israel insists that *Baitul Maqdis* (Jerusalem) would remain under its administration while the Palestinians' demand is that at least the eastern part of *Baitul Maqdis*, which had passed into Israeli hands from Jordan in the Arab-Israel war of 1967, should be under Palestinian control. The Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock (*Qubbatus Sakhra*) from where the last Prophet (PBUH) had been taken on a journey to the heavens by Allah (SWT) are located in this part of the holy city.

On 28 September 2000, Ariel Sharon, the head of Likud, Israel's extremist party, visited the Aqsa Mosque in a patently provocative fashion. The Palestinian Muslims staged a peaceful demonstration in protest against this unexpected and uncalled for intrusion, which was fired upon by Israeli army. Since that time the entire Palestine is smouldering like a cauldron. Israel insists on building the Solomon's Temple within the confines of the Aqsa Mosque while Muslims are determined to sacrifice all to prevent this unjustified move, since the construction of the Solomon's Temple is not possible without demolition of the Aqsa Mosque. Hundreds of protesting and non-

protesting Muslims have so far been killed by the Israeli armed forces and their houses bulldozed in line with its expansionist designs. No one knows when the carnage would end.

The complete destruction of the World Trade Centre, New York and partial destruction of the Pentagon in September 2001 in suicide attacks in which aircraft were used as missiles have given a grim twist to events. Perhaps unable to comprehend the how and why of it, and feeling in the dock in view of the glaring failure of America's intelligence agencies, President Bush rushed to declare war against an unknown and unnamed enemy, and then started looking for one. Without bothering to offer convincing evidence of the involvement of Usama Bin Laden, America unleashed fierce bombing raids against Afghanistan for its refusal to accede to the high-handed American demand to hand over Usama to it providing concrete evidence of his involvement in the attack.

The full story of the death and destruction wrought on the hapless people, men, women and children is yet to come to light. What has filtered through, despite very tight blackout of information by US is horrendous enough.

World opinion has been made very hostile to Muslims in general and Arabs in particular by the largely Jewish controlled media. Seeing their opportunity, Israelis have intensified their atrocities against unarmed Palestinians. These have crossed all limits and hardly a day passes without the blood of Muslim children and young men being shed. The death toll is climbing by the hour.

Commenting on the plight of the Palestinians and the atrocious highhandedness of Israel Edward W. Said wrote an article from which I quote two paragraphs:

"The appallingly unbroken history of Israel's 34 year-old military occupation (the second longest in modern history) of illegally conquered Palestinian land has been obliterated from public memory nearly everywhere, as has been the destruction of Palestinian society in 1948 and the expulsion of 68% of its native people, of whom 4.5 million remain refugees today.

Behind the reams of newspeak, the stark outlines of Israel's decades-long daily pressure on its people whose main sin is that they happened to be there, in Israel's way, is staggeringly perceptible in its inhuman sadism. The cruel confinement of 1.3 million people jammed like so many human sardines into the Gaza strip, plus the nearly 2 million Palestinian residents of the West Bank has no parallel in the annals of apartheid or colonialism."

What is the importance of *Baitul Maqdis* / Jerusalem for Muslims? What is the historical background of the question of Palestine in general and *Baitul Maqdis* and the Aqsa Mosque in particular, are questions that were addressed by Maulana Sayyid Abul A'la Maududi in a speech delivered in Lahore on 24 August 1969, more than three decades ago. Much water has flown under the bridge since then but the eye-opening information contained in the speech is as relevant today and the analysis offered as applicable at the present times as it was then.

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Historical Roots of Palestine Problem

Background

The news of the *Aqsa* Mosque being set ablaze struck Muslims the world over like lightning. Muslims, not just in Pakistan, but the world over, suffered great distress from the treacherous act. At this, the latest barbarity, the question that has started agitating the minds of Muslims once again like a nightmare is: what is the remedy of this affliction. This is one of the critical moments of our history and it is our misfortune that this inauspicious moment should have occurred in our lifetime. Despite presence of some 700 to 750 million Muslims in the world, the Jews have dared to set ablaze one of the three of our sacred most places, the Mosque which has the distinction of being the first *Qiblah* towards which the Prophet of Allah turned his face at prayer time for fourteen years and from which he embarked on his visit of the heavens. What can be a greater misfortune to befall Muslim *Ummah*? The Muslim who left in him even a little bit of the Faith wonders what will be left of the *Ummah's* repute and what further degradation will lie in store for us if we do not do anything about catastrophe.

At this critical juncture, it is important that we take cognizance of the problem in its entirety since without such an understanding we will not be able to decide what we need to do to protect the *Aqsa* Mosque.

Israel has tried repeatedly to hoodwink the Muslim following the firing incident and has resorted to questionable methods in doing this. It was said first of all that the cause of the fire was short-circuit in the wiring. The culprits realized soon, however that the explanation lacked credibility. How could an electrical fault cause such a large blaze in the huge edifice? Then with much brazenness and quite shamelessly the lie was fabricated that Arabs themselves had started the blaze. We know such lies well and also know of the kind of people who fabricate them. (It was a Jew who put forward the concept of end justifying the means.) The Jews realized soon that this new lie would also not do. Now they have arrested an Australian young man and want to convince the world that the mad fellow has perpetrated the act in a fit of madness and that Israel had no plans to demolish the *Aqsa* Mosque. It is possible that they would try to hide their crime by installing a Commission which would "after due investigations" find the young man guilty. I wish therefore to lay before you the entire historical background of the incident whereby you will come to know that the incident is a preliminary to a long term plan spread over several centuries.

Jewish Ambitions in Historical Perspective

It was about 1300 BC that *Bani Israeel* (Children of Israel) entered *Baitul Maqdis* (Jerusalem) and, after a struggle lasting over some two hundred years, succeeded in occupying the area. They were not the original inhabitants of this land. The original inhabitants were other people comprising tribes and nations whose names are provided by the Bible itself in detail. And it is from the (elucidation provided in

the) Bible we learn that *Bani Isra'eel* had conquered the area after committing large-scale genocide on the original inhabitants just as Europeans, in recent times, occupied north America by exterminating the Red Indians, its original inhabitants. *Bani Isra'eel* had claimed that God had ordained that they should inherit the land and therefore they had the right to occupy it by expelling – and if necessary killing – the original inhabitants.

Subsequent to this, in the 8th Century B.C., Assyria annexed North Palestine, wiped out the Israelis and settled in the land people of other nationalities, the majority of whom were Arabs. Then in the 6th century B.C. *Bakht Nassar* the king of Babul captured South Palestine, banished all the Jews from it, destroyed *Baitul Maqdis* totally and demolished the Temple of Solomon built by *Hazrat Sulaiman* (pbuh) in tenth century BC so completely that not a trace of it was left. After a long period in exile, during the rule of Iranians the Jews got the opportunity to settle in south Palestine once again and they reconstructed the Temple of Solomon. This second spell of their inhabiting the land also did not last more than three or four hundred years. In 70 AD the Jews rose in revolt against the Roman Empire in retaliation against which the city of *Baitul Maqdis* and the Temple of Solomon were totally destroyed and after crushing another rebellion in 135 AD the Romans expelled the Jews from the whole of Palestine. After second banishment of the Jews, tribes of the Arabian race settle in South Palestine once again, just as they had settled in North Palestine 800 years earlier. Before the advent of Islam the entire region was populated by Arab nations. The Romans had barred Jews even from entering *Baitul Maqdis* and

the population of Jews in Palestine was next to nothing.

From History therefore it is quite clear that:

- 1. The Jews were able to forcibly occupy Palestine after committing genocide (on the population then inhabiting it).*
- 2. They inhabited North Palestine for four or five hundred years only.*
- 3. The period of their inhabiting south Palestine was eight or nine hundred years at the most.*
- 4. Arabs have inhabited North Palestine continuously since two thousand years now and South Palestine continuously since approximately two thousand years.*

Despite this, the Jews persist in claiming that Palestine is the heritage of their forefathers bequeathed to them by God and that they have the right to regain this heritage by force and to expel its old inhabitants and settle in their land just as they had done in 1300 BC.

Since two thousand years now, Jews the world over have been praying four times a week for *Baitul Maqdis* to come again in their grasp and that they are religious enabled to reconstruct Solomon's Temple once again. In every Jewish household the drama is enacted on all religious occasions, of their exodus from Egypt, the settlement in Palestine, of how Babylonians expelled them and how they were then scattered all over the world. By this means all Jews right from early childhood are being brainwashed into believing since two thousand years now that Palestine is theirs and

they must get it back and that the *raison d'être* of their existence is reconstruction of the Solomon's Temple.

The renowned Jewish philosopher of the 12 Century B.C., Maimonides in his book "The Code of Jewish Law", states plainly that every Jewish generation has the obligation to reconstruct the Solomon's Temple in *Baitul Maqdis*. The famous Freemason Movement, almost all facts concerning which have been published in the Newspapers of the country, is in reality a Jewish movement, which has taken the reconstruction of the Solomon's Temple as its aim. In fact the focus of the entire Freemason movement is this concept and all Freemason Lodges enact the drama of the process of reconstruction of Solomon's Temple. You might conclude from this that the fire that took place in the *Aqsa Mosque* was no accident. For centuries the aim of the Jewish people has been the reconstruction of Solomon's Temple in place of the *Aqsa Mosque* and now that they have occupied *Baitul Maqdis*, is not possible that they do not attempt to implement the lifelong aspiration.

Before we proceed further I wish to clarify another aspect of the matter. It is a historically proven fact that the Solomon's Temple had been totally destroyed in 70 A.D. and when *Baitul Maqdis* was conquered during the Caliphate of *Hazrat Umer* (pbuh) there was no Jewish temple here, only its ruins. Therefore no Jew can claim that *Aqsa Mosque* or *Qubbatus Sakhra* (The Dome of the Rock) was built after destroying any Jewish temple. History also provides proof that Palestine was cleared of Jews during the period of Roman occupation and Jews were forbidden to enter *Baitul Maqdis* even. It was the tolerant fair-

mindfulness of Muslims that they allowed Jews to once again live and settle there. History also bears witness to the fact that during the last 1300 or 1400 years the only lands where Jews were allowed to live in peace in the world were Muslim lands. They were invariably subjected to harsh treatment in the lands ruled by Christians. Jewish historians admit that the most splendid period in their history was when they lived in Spain as subjects under the Muslims. The "Wailing Wall", which the Jews consider to be their most important sacred relic, was given them by the Muslims. The 1 July 1968 issue of 'News From Israel', which is an official Bulletin published by the Israeli Government from Bombay, reported that the Wailing Wall had long been buried under litter and rubbish and no one knew its location even. In 16th Century A.D., *Sultan Saleem Usmany* learnt about it by chance. He had the place cleaned up and permitted Jews to visit it. ***But Jews are such an ungrateful nation that they now pay back in this manner for the fairness, generosity and favourable treatment they received from the Muslims.***

How The Jews Planned It All

I will now recount briefly, how these brutal people worked relentlessly with precise planning to capture Palestine and *Baitul Maqdis*. First of all there was a move among the Jews to migrate from different parts of the world to settle in Palestine and to buy lands there. Accordingly the migration started in 1880, mainly with Jewish families moving from Eastern Europe. Subsequent to this, the Zionist movement was formally launched by Theodore *Hertzel*, the famous Jewish leader, with the declared objective of once

again capturing Palestine and building the Solomon's Temple in it. Huge finances were made available by Jewish capitalists to enable Jewish families moving to Palestine to purchase lands in it and to establish settlements in an organized manner.

In 1901 *Hartzel* sent a formal message to Sultan *Abdul Hameed Khan* of Turkey, offering to repay all the debts of the Turkish Government in return for allowing Jews to make Palestine their national home. *Sultan Abdul Hameed Khan* rebuffed this offer out of hand and said in plain words: "As long as I live and as long as there is Turkish Kingdom, there is no possibility of Palestine being handed over to the Jews. I spit on your wealth". The man who delivered *Hartzel's* message was *Hakaam Qarrah Sou Aafandi*. He was a Jew from *Salonika* city in Turkey, and his family was among those, which had settled in Turkey after they were expelled from Spain. Despite being Turkish subject, he had the courage to go to the Court of the Sultan to make the demand for handing over Palestine to Jews. This was not all. After receiving Sultan's answer *Hartzel* threatened him in plain words that he would face the dire consequences of his rejection of the Jews' demand.

Accordingly, immediately after this, conspiracies were hatched to overturn the rule of *Sultan Abdul Hameed*. Conspirators included the Freemasons, the **Doonumah** (those Jews who had embraced Islam hypocritically) and educated young Muslims who had become the flag-bearers of Turkish nationalism under the influence of Western education. They spread their influence in the Turkish army and the conspiracy they hatched took seven years to mature to a stage at which

Sultan Abdul Hameed could be (and was) deposed. An admonitory aspect of the matter was that the three-member delegation, which took the instrument of deposition to the Sultan in 1908, comprised two Turks and the very same *Hakham Qarrah Sou Aafandi*, through whom *Hartzel* had sent to the Sultan the demand for handing over Palestine to the Jews! **This gives an idea of the disgraceful behaviour of Muslims in sending to the Sultan, the instrument of his deposition through a Jew who had just seven years earlier conveyed the demand for handing over Palestine to the Jews and had been rebuffed!**

The Conflict Between Turkish and Arabic Nationalisms

Another conspiracy was being vigorously hatched concurrently whose purpose was to cause the disintegration of the Turkish Sultanate. In this intrigue, western politicians and the Jewish mind were cohorts right from the beginning. On one hand a movement was launched among the Turks to make Turkish nationalism and not Islamic brotherhood the cornerstone of the Turkish State, although the Sultanate was populated at the time by not only Turks but also by Arabs, Kurds and Muslims of other nationalities. In designating the State as Turkish, the intention was to alienate all non-Turk Muslims from it. On the other hand, at the very same time, Arabs were being sold the doctrine of Arab nationalism and they were persuaded to struggle to free themselves from the Turkish rule. Among Arabs, this intrigue was spread by Arab Christians. Beirut was its centre and the American University in Beirut was the focal point for propagating this idea. Thus two opposing nationalistic

movements were simultaneously launched among the Turks and the Arabs, respectively. They were turned against one another to the extent that when World War I started in 1914, the Arabs and Turks instead of being allies stood against each other as enemies, thirsting for each other's blood.

First World War And The Balfour Declaration

In the beginning, the Jews wanted to strike a deal with the German Government, since at the time, the Jews enjoyed as much influence in Germany as they do today in the United States. They tried to get Kaiser Wilhelm to commit to help make Palestine the national homeland of the Jews. But the reason why Jews could not trust Germany in this respect was that the Turkish Government was an ally of Germany in this war. The Jews were not convinced that Kaiser Wilhelm would be able to honour his promise to them. At this juncture Dr. Weisman came forward and made an offer to the British Government: the wealth of the entire Jewish community of the world, their brains and their talent would be devoted to the support of the war effort of England and France against Germany, in return for their promise to make Palestine the homeland of Jews after the war was won. Finally in 1917, Dr. Weisman was able to obtain from the British Government the famous document, which is known as the **Balfour Declaration** (named after Lord Balfour, the Foreign Minister of Britain).

It was a masterpiece of dishonest conduct on the part of the British! On the one hand they were assuring the Arabs that they would create an independent Arab State and made a written commitment to that effect to

Shareef Hussain of Hijaz and it was due to this commitment that the Arabs rose in revolt against the Turks and made possible the occupation of Palestine, Iraq and Syria by the British. On the other hand, at the same time, the British were handing over a document to the Jews committing that they would make Palestine the homeland of the Jews. **This was deceit of such a magnitude that as long as the English nation exists in the world, it will not be able to wash off the shame of this deception from its face.** Just consider! What was the implication of making Palestine the homeland of the Jews? Was Palestine an uninhabited land on which they were promising to settle a nation? No! A people had continuously inhabited the land since around 2000-2500 years. At the time of the Balfour Declaration the population of Jews did not even amount to 5% of the total. The Foreign Minister of the Kingdom of Britain was making written commitment to settle in a country already inhabited by a people of one nationality, people of a different nationality which was scattered all over the world since 1900 years past. This was tantamount to promising the Jews: 'we would give you the opportunity to expel the Arabs from the very same land which we have capture with the help of Arabs themselves and to settle in the place your own kind, brought over from all over the world. This was cruelty of such enormity that it has no proceeds in the entire human history. To add insult to injury, Lord Balfour wrote the following words in his diary concerned the document he had given to the Jews: **"when taking decision on the future of Palestine, we do not need consult the local inhabitants. Zionism means more**

us than the aspirations and prejudices of the 700,000 Arabs who inhabit this ancient land."

These words from Balfour's diary are part of Volume Two of Documents of British Policy.

Role Of The League Of Nations

With the occupation of Palestine by the British at the issue of Balfour declaration, the first phase of the Jews' long-term plan was completed. From its beginning in 1880 to its completion in 1917, the first phase took thirty seven (37) years to complete. Then began the second phase of the plan. The League of Nations and Britain and France, the two main powers behind it worked for the fulfillment of this phase with a zeal more befitting as agents of Zionism than independent, sovereign entities.

In 1922 the League of Nations decided to give Palestine under the mandate of Britain. The census conducted at this time in Palestine yielded the following statistics:

	Number	Percent
Arab Muslims	660,641	81%
Christian Arabs	71,464	9%
Jews	82,790	10%
Total	814,895	100%

The Jewish population would have totalled much less than even the above figure but for the fact that Jews had begun to move to Palestine in large numbers about the time as already mentioned. Even so the League of Nations, while giving the Mandate to Britain, instructed it quite shamelessly that it would have the responsibility of helping Jews in every way in

making Palestine their national home and also that it should officially recognize the Zionist organization, make it a partner in administration and give practical shape to make Palestine a national home for the Jews with its advice and cooperation. As for the original inhabitants of the area, the mandate **just required Britain to safeguard their religious and civil rights. There was no mention at all of their political rights.** This was 'justice' dispensed by an organization founded in the name of bringing peace to the world! It readily agreed to share political power with those engaged in bringing in Jews from outside, but did not consider it necessary to even nominally make mention of the political rights of the original inhabitants of the country. The instructions under the Palestine Mandate, should give you some idea of the influence Jews had managed to acquire on the big powers of the time and on the League of Nations.

The (Dubious) Part Played By The British Mandate

Once the Mandate was issued, the process of bringing in Jews and settling them in Palestine began in earnest. Palestine's first British High Commissioner, Sir Herbert Samuel was himself a Jew. The Zionist organization was associated with the Administration and was assigned not only the Ministries of Education and Agriculture, but also entrusted with matters concerning Immigration Travel and Nationality. Laws were enacted whereby it was made easy for Jews to immigrate into Palestine and acquire lands. They were also provided agricultural loans and advances. Arabs were heavily taxed and courts began to confiscate Arab-owned lands on the pretext of tax default. Such lands were then sold to Jews. Government lands were

also given to Jews, sometime free of cost and at leases of nominal value. In some areas whole villages were wiped clean of Arabs on flimsy pretexts and turned into Jewish settlements. In one area as many as 8,000 Arab agriculturists and agricultural worker were expelled from their lands by Government order after paying them 3Pounds 10 Shillings a piece. With these subterfuges, the Jewish population increased very substantially over the next 17 years. In 1922 Jews numbered a little over 82,000 but by 1936 their number had swelled to 450,000. It is quite clear from this that the British kept serving the interests of Zionism in Palestine and their conscience did not remind them even once that the original inhabitants of a country had rights and that it was the rulers' responsibility to uphold and safeguard these rights.

These developments gathered pace during the Second World War. Fleeing persecution by Hitler, Jews in large numbers, through means legal and illegal, stampeded into Palestine. Zionist agencies managed to introduce them into the country by their hundreds of thousands and established gangs which crossed all limits of cruelty in expelling Arabs from their lands and homes and settling Jews in them. Right under the nose of the British Mandate all kinds of weapons were reaching the Jews who were using them to attack the Arabs. Law was active only in suppressing Arabs and was being used to prevent them from acquiring arms and defending themselves against oppression. Ironically the British Government was very liberal in helping Arabs running for their lives, to leave the country. Thus within the 30 years between 1917 and 1947, the second phase of the Jewish plan was completed at the end of which they were able to

establish a Jewish State in place of the originally envisaged Jewish National Home.

From "National Home" To "National State"

In 1947 the British Government took the Palestine issue to the United Nations. This move said in effect: 'we have carried out the task in the service of Zionism assigned to us by the League of Nations and further work in that direction should now be carried out by the United Nations, the new world body which replaced the defunct world body.' Let us take a look now at the kind of justice dispensed by this second world body whose declared aim was establishment of peace and justice.

In November 1947 the General Assembly of the United Nations took the decision to divide Palestine between Jews and Arabs. How was this decision arrived at? 33 votes were cast in its favour and 13 against it. This was the minimum plurality with which the General Assembly could pass a resolution. Till a few days earlier the plurality was even less than this, the required minimum. Only 30 countries were in its favour. Finally, America forced Haiti, Philippines and Liberia, with application of undue pressure to cast votes in favour of the move. The records of the American Congress itself clearly show that these 3 votes were obtained by coercion. **James Forrestal writes in his diary: The methods used to coerce other countries (to cast their votes in favour of the move) bordered on a scandal.**

According to the proposal which was got approved through this subterfuge, 55% of Palestine by area was to be allotted to the Jews who then numbered 33% of

the population and 45% of the land was to be given to Arabs whose population was 67% of the total. At the time only 6% of the land was owned by Jews. This was Justice United Nations style!

Jews were not satisfied with even this lopsided division, however. They began to dispossess Arabs of their lands and thus grab more and more of the country's land. Referring to the barbaric actions committed by Jews in this connection, Arnold Toynbee (the renowned historian) writes in his book "*A Study of History*": "They (the acts) were no less cruel than those committed by Hitler on Jews themselves". He particularly mentioned the massacre by Jews in *Dair Yaseen* in which Arab women, children and men were murdered freely. Arab women and girls were force-marched in naked state while Jews announced from loud speakers mounted on cars: "this is what we have done to Arabs in *Dair Yaseen*. If you do not want to have this happen to you, get out of here'. It is for all to consider whether such can be the behaviour of a nation with even a little bit of humanity left.

In this backdrop, while the General Assembly of the United Nations was again discussing the Palestine question on 14 May 1948, the Jewish Agency formally declared founding of the Israeli State and America and Russia were the first two to recognize this declaration, although at that time the United Nations had not authorized Jews to establish a Jewish State in Palestine. By the time of this declaration, 600,000 Arabs had been driven out of their homes and quite against the United Nation proposal, half of Jerusalem (*Baitul Maqdis*) had been occupied by Israel.

Following declaration of the Israeli State, the neighbouring Arab states intervened to protect the helpless Arab population of Palestine and their forces entered Palestine. By this time the Jews had become so powerful however, that all the Arab States together could not hard them back. By the time United Nations decided to enforce a ceasefire in November 1948, a little over 77% Palestine was under Jewish occupation. The question that who had enabled the Jews to hold their own against the combined might of 5 Arab States? In providing the Jews with such power both the Capitalist System and the Communist System had joined hands. Most of the weapons and equipment was supplied from Czechoslovakia. The deliberations of the United Nations the time testify to the fact that the Western Capitalist world and the Communist world were vying with each other supporting the Jews and opposing the Arabs. It was difficult to decide which of the two the more fervour champion of the Jewish cause was.

The Third Phase Of The Jewish Grand Plan

Now began the third phase of the Jewish plan which ended 19 years later with the June 1969 war are resulted in the occupation by Israel of *Baitul Maqdis*, the remaining Palestine, and the entire Sinai Peninsula and the Golan Heights on the Syrian border. In November 1948 the area of the Israeli State was 7,993 square miles. The June 1969 war added 27,000 square miles to it and around 1.5 million Arabs became subjects of Jews. What made the Israeli successes possible was more than anything else, the unqualified support and backing provided to it by America. Britain and France also played their respective parts in support

of Israel. Russia and its East European (Communist) block were openly supportive of Israel at least till 1955 and if they subsequently changed their policy then the change was to result in benefit to Israel rather than the Arabs. In 1955 when Arab countries despaired of receiving arms from America and the West to defend themselves against Israel, they were forced to turn to the Communist block which started supply them arms, seeing in it an opportunity of spreading Communism in the region and bringing Arab countries into its sphere of influence. The move did not result in Arab Countries achieving the ability to defend themselves against Israel, however. What actually came to pass instead was that Russia was able to extend its influence from Egypt and Syria to as far as Yemen and Algiers. As a result, Arab countries got so entangled in internal strife between "conservative" and "progressive" forces within the Arab world, that instead of tackling Israel they ended up working at cross purposes with each other.

Over a period of 19 years, America provided Israel with financial aid amounting to US\$ 1,600,000,000. West Germany was made to pay US\$ 822,000,000 in reparations. Jews from all over the world contributed US\$ 2,000,000,000 to strengthen Israel's financial position. It was so generously armed that before the June 1967 war American experts had estimated that Israel would be able to vanquish the Arab States around it within 5 days! At the political level America and its friends kept up their support of Israel due to which United Nations was not able to do anything about its persistent excesses. **From November 1947 to 1957 Israel had rebuffed no less than 28 unanimous resolutions of United Nations (against it).** Between

September 1948 and November 1966 the United Nations passed resolutions of censure against Israel on a many as 7 occasions without their having the slightest effect on Israel. You can get some idea of its impudence from the fact that when the United nations general Assembly was about to meet after the June 1967 war Israel's then Prime Minister Levi Shekel declared unequivocally: **"even if 121 out of 122 members of the United Nations vote against us and we have no more than our own lone vote in our favour, we would still no withdraw from the areas we have occupied"**. Israel's defiance of the world opinion was made possible by the support it enjoyed from America and its friends, rendering the United Nations completely helpless in the matter.

To get an idea of how deeply America is involved with Israel, you have only to cast a glance at its stance in respect of the June 1967 war. A week before the war the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the American Army, General Wheeler assured President Johnson that Israel took the initiative with an air strike (against Egypt), would succeed in vanquishing the Arab armies in no more than 3 or 4 days. Not fully satisfied with the report, however, President Johnson called for a (confirmatory) report from Central Intelligence Chief Richard Helms as well. When he also supported the assessment made by Wheeler, Johnson contracted USSR and obtained assurance that Russia would not take any action in support of the Arabs. Right after this Israel received a 'revelation' to the effect that time was now opportune for an attack on the Arab countries. Even so America's Sixth Fleet stood ready, fully equipped and in full force, near the

borders of Israel and Egypt, to intervene in support of Israel if need arose.

The extent of British support for Israel was amply demonstrated by the fact that one of its aircraft carriers stood ready in Malta and another in Aden to come to Israel's help if required. After the war The Sunday Times published a book titled 'The Holy War June 1967'. The chapter that recounts the occupation of *Baitul Maqdis* by the Jews is titled 'Back after 896 Years'. It is obvious that 896 years ago *Baitul Maqdis* was under the Crusading Christians and not under the Jews. This signified that British sympathy for the Jews owed itself to a crusading outlook. They considered this war to be an extension of the Crusades.

The sincerity of Russia's friendship for Arabs can be easily gauged from the fact that the night before the Israel's attack on Egypt's airfields early next morning, Russia had assured Nasser that there would be no attack. The Russian stance vis-a-vis Arabs is summed up in the comment of a Yugoslavian diplomat who said: 'When a Super Power withdraws support from someone, it ejects him from an aircraft without the benefit of a parachute'. This was the background to the success the third phase of the Israeli plan and the entire Palestine including *Baitul Maqdis* passed into their hands.

The Fourth And Final Phase Of The Jewish Plan

What confronts the Islamic world now is the fourth and the final phase of the Jewish plan whose fulfilment has been their ardent desire since 2000 years past and towards whose implementation they have

been working methodically and systematically for the last 90 years.

The phase has two important components. First to demolish the Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock and to reconstruct The Solomon's Temple which is not possible without first demolishing the aforementioned sacred edifices. The other is to capture the entire region which Israel regards as its heritage. I would like all Muslims to fully understand the specifics of both of the components of the final phase of the Israeli plan.

As far as the first component is concerned, Israel had achieved the power to implement it as soon as it has captured *Baitul Maqdis*. It however hesitated to implement it for two reasons. First Israel itself and America, its chief patron, feared a strong backlash from the Islamic World. The other reason was that there is difference of opinion among the Jews themselves on the issue. One of their groups holds the belief that the Temple would be constructed by the promised messiah and that Jews should await his coming. [It may be recalled that Muslims and Christians believe that the Messiah to come is none other than *Eesa* (Christ) pbuh. However the Jews deny this. Their 'Promised Messiah' is no other than the being identified in *Hadeeth* by the last Prophet *Muhammad* (pbuh) as *Maseeh-e-Dajjal*. (The anti-Christ)].

This is the view of the conservative group among the Jews. The other (modernist) group, which actually holds the reins of power today, says: 'with the capture of the Old *Baitul Maqdis* and the Wailing Wall we have entered the Messianic Era'. An identical view was expressed by the Chief Rabbi of the Jewish army

with Torah in his hands on the day he stood in front of the Wailing Wall after the occupation of *Baitul Maqdis* by the Jews. He said: 'The Jewish nation enters the Messianic Era today'.

Due to these two reasons, instead of demolishing it completely at one go, the *Aqsa Mosque* was torched as a preliminary step towards its eventual demolition. On one hand the reaction of the Islamic world would be gauged and on the other the Jews would be gradually readied for the final act of the plan.

The other part of the final phase of the Jewish plan is to annex **The Heritage Country**. Israel's Parliament building carries the inscription: '*O, Israel! Thy frontier extends from the Nile to the Euphrates*' (this being translation back from Urdu, the words might not be exactly the same – Translator).

Israel is the only country in the world, which has openly declared its intention (inscribed right on its parliament building), to annex lands inhabited by other nations. No other country has made known its aggressive intent so brazenly. According to the specifics of this plan revealed in a map published by the Zionist Movement, the countries which Israel wants to annex include part of Egypt up to the river Nile, whole of Jordan, the whole of Syria, all of Lebanon, a big part of Iraq, the southern part of Turkey and (brace yourself to hear this), the entire upper *Hijaaz* up to *Medinah*. If the Arab world continues to be as weak as it is today and Allah forbid, if the reaction of the Muslim world to the burning incident is not very effective, then (dust to my mouth) we may be forced to see the day when these enemies of Islam make their move to implement their four plans.

What Must Now Be Done?

I have gone into the specifics of the subject in such detail in order that the entire problem is understood in its total perspective and the importance and implications what has occurred may be fully grasped. From what I have said so far the following conclusions are inescapable:

Firstly, the Jews have been successful in their designs so far because they have enjoyed the backing of the major powers of the world. There does not appear to be any prospect of any change in this situation. In particular as long as Israel has the backing of America it will not hesitate to commit even the most heinous crimes.

Secondly, it is futile to pin any hopes on the Communist Block. It would not expose itself to risks that may be involved in restraining Israel. At the most it can provide arms and that too on the condition that the Arab countries anchor themselves to Communism and banish Islam from their lands. (The readers are reminded once again that this speech was delivered in 1969 – Translator).

Thirdly, United Nations can do no more than pass resolutions. It lacks the power to prevent Israel from carrying out criminal acts.

Fourthly, the combined might of the Arab countries is incapable of confronting Israel. The experience of the last 22 years bears ample testimony to that.

Taking these ground realities into account, there appears only one way of saving not only the *Aqsa Mosque* but also *Medinah* itself from the looming

dangers. And that is to focus the power and influence of the entire Muslim population of the world on confronting the Jewish threat and installing permanent safeguards for the protection of sacred Islamic places. **The mistake made so far has been to treat the Palestine question as an Arab Question.** Muslims the world over have been saying that this is an issue of concern to Islam and the Muslims at large but some Arab leaders have been persisting in calling it an Arab issue. Allah be praised for the fact that the fire in the Aqsa Mosque has now opened their eyes and they have now recognized the fact that Arabs alone cannot take on the gigantic international Zionist conspiracy specially when it is fully backed by the big powers of the world. Against the Jewish world population of 16 million Muslims number 750 million and they rule over around 32 countries in the world stretching from Indonesia to Morocco and West Africa. If the heads of these states come together (on the issue) and the Muslims of the entire world determine to back them up with material support and blood, it would not be very difficult, Allah willing, to solve this problem.

If a world conference is organized in this connection, it should clearly take cognizance of the fact that the real issue is not the safety of the *Aqsa Mosque*. The *Aqsa Mosque* cannot be secure as long as Jews control *Baitul Maqdis* and *Baitul Maqdis* itself is not safe while the Jews are in occupation of Palestine. **The real issue therefore is the emancipation of Palestine from the unlawful occupation of the Jews and its obvious solution is that only those Jews be allowed to live in Palestine who lived in Palestine at the time of the Balfour Declaration.** All Jews who came to Palestine after 1917 or were brought here

should go back. Through intrigue and brute force, they have turned the homeland of another nation into their own homeland and have then converted it into a Nation State and then embarked on an aggressively expansionist policy of occupying the surrounding regions. They have even engraved on their parliament building the names of the countries, which they want to subject to their aggressive designs. The very existence of such an openly aggressive State is in itself a crime and a threat to world peace. It is particularly a threat to the entire Islamic World because the targets of its aggression are places sacred to Muslims. The existence of this State can now be tolerated no more. It must cease to exist. Palestine should be a democratic State of its original inhabitants in which the original Jewish inhabitants should have the same civic rights as Arab Muslims and Christians. Those who have intruded into the country and forcibly converted it, first into a National Home for themselves and then into their Nation State should leave Palestine.

There is no solution to the problem of Palestine except this. As for America which supports these usurpers after mortgaging its conscience with the Jews, the time has come for all Muslims to warn it in clear terms that if it persists in its present conduct there would not be a single Muslim on the face of the earth with the smallest soft corner for it. It would then be for America to decide how far it wants to go in support of the Jews.

